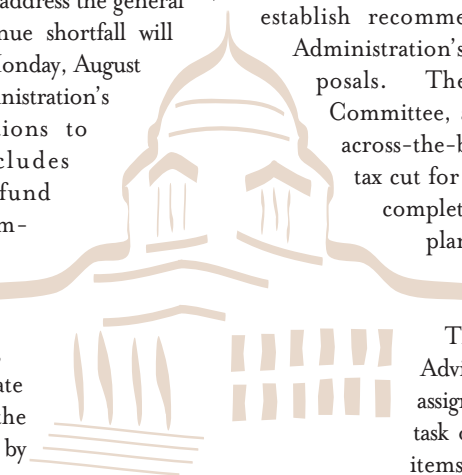




Special Legislative Session

The Special Legislative Session called by Governor Judy Martz to address the general fund \$45 million revenue shortfall will convene in Helena on Monday, August 5. The Martz/Ohs Administration's budget recommendations to the Legislature includes replacing general fund shortages for tourism-related programs at the Montana Historical Society, Montana Arts Council, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks—State Parks Division and the Museum of the Rockies by transferring \$1.915 million from Travel Montana's cash reserve. These transfers, addressed in House Bill 2 and House Bill 8, will not impact current Travel Montana marketing and promotion efforts. Travel Montana will provide information on our Intranet site at www.travelmontana.state.mt.us to keep you on top of the legislative process. Promotion Division Administrator Betsy Baumgart also will distribute the Travel Montana legislative e-mail newsletter, "News from the Front." Contact Travel Montana at 406-841-2873 if you would like to be included on this e-mail distribution list.



Tax Reform Committees

The Martz/Ohs Tax Reform Advisory Committees have been diligently working over the past few months to review and establish recommendations for the Administration's tax reform proposals. The Income Tax Committee, assigned to find an across-the-board 10% income tax cut for all Montanans, has completed its meetings and plans to present two recommendations to Governor Martz.

The Tourist Tax Advisory Committee, assigned to the complex task of determining the items and/or businesses to tax and recommend the appropriate tax rate, will meet again Friday, August 30, 2002 from 9 am to 4:30 pm at the Capitol building. The Local Option Tourist Tax Committee, which met for the first time July 19, 2002, will gather Tuesday, September 3, 2002 from 9 am to 4:30 pm at the Capitol building. The public is encouraged to attend these sessions. Anyone interested in learning more about these committees can log onto Travel Montana's Intranet site at www.travelmontana.state.mt.us.

We Have Moved

All divisions of the Montana Department of Commerce are settling into their new office at 301 South Park Avenue, Helena, MT 59620. Travel Montana's new main phone line is 406-841-2870 and the new Fax number is 406-841-2871. While all of the staff have new direct phone lines, the 800 numbers, post office boxes and staff e-mails have remained the same.

Group Travel 101

Interested in the group travel market, but not sure if it is right for you? Then mark your calendar for Monday, September 16, 2002 to hear national speaker Tom Jaffa of Jaffa Travel & Receptive Services present his seminar "Group Travel 101." This free event will take place at the Holiday Inn Helena Downtown from 1 to 4:30 pm. For those Montana NTA members traveling to Los Angeles for the annual convention, plan to attend a pre-caucus meeting from 10 to 11:30 am, also located at the Holiday Inn Helena Downtown.

Jaffa, a member of the National Tour Association (NTA) and the American Bus Association (ABA), will bring to Helena his diverse background as a city and state destination marketing organizer, a supplier (working daily with lodging, attraction, transportation, restaurant, museum, winery, destination and other tourism industry clients), a tour operator, receptive operator and owner of a destination management company. Tom and his wife Diane, who also works for Jaffa Travel & Receptive Services, will be in Montana prior to the event on a familiarization trip. Please join us to learn more about the industry and form partnerships with other Montana suppliers. Contact Marlee Iverson at 406-841-2895 or marlee@visitmt.com for more details.

Did You Know?

- The July 2002 issue of *Men's Journal* magazine features Montana.
- Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks have been chosen as two of the six top picks for the America's Crown Jewels of National Parks in the July/August issue of *Endless Vacation* magazine.
- The July 2002 issue of the *The World and I* magazine had a 10-page feature on Bannack State Park and Virginia/Nevada City.
- Virginia and Nevada City were featured in the Sunday, July 21, 2002 edition of the *New York Times*.
- A recent issue of *Time* magazine dedicated a majority of the magazine to the Lewis and Clark Trail.
- Glacier Country, Montana was featured in the August 2002 issue of *Travel America* magazine.
- Big Mountain will host the Telemark World Championships March 20-24, 2003.

Picture Perfect

The Flathead Valley and Glacier National Park will once again be picture perfect for the third annual Travel

Montana/Popular

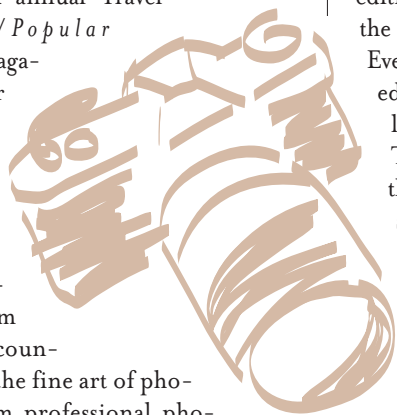
Photography maga-
zine's Mentor

Series photo
workshop,
August 21-
26, 2002.

Sixty ama-
teur photog-
raphers from
around the coun-

try will learn the fine art of pho-
tography from professional pho-
tographers Darrell Gulin, Adams
Jones and Rick Sammon and Montana
photographers John Reddy, Karen Nichols
and Travel Montana's Staff Photographer,
Donnie Sexton. Participants will shoot the
magnificent landscapes of Glacier National
Park, capture portraits of wranglers at the
Hargrave Cattle and Guest Ranch and look
into the eyes of a grizzly bear at Triple D
Game Farm.

Travel Montana is the major sponsor of
this project with additional support from
Glacier Country, Triple D Game Farm,
the Hargrave Cattle and Guest Ranch, Big
Mountain Resort, WestCoast Kalispell
Center Hotel, Sun Tours, Photo Video
Plus, Glacier National Park, Vista Linda
Catering, Far West Excursions and Glacier
Raft Company.



Cool Things Down

Travel Montana has some "cool" publica-
tions hot off the press. The new 2002/2003
edition of the Montana Winter Guide and
the October 2002-April 2003 Calendar of
Events are now available. If you are interest-
ed in these guides or any of our other pub-
lications, give us a call at 406-841-2870.
To bring the temperature down even fur-
ther, visit Travel Montana's winter web-
sites: wintermt.com, skimt.com and
sledtherockies.org.

Special Grants Awarded

Big Timber, Billings, Hamilton, Havre
and Livingston have been awarded a total of
\$26,925 from Montana Department of
Commerce's Special Events Grant Program
(SEGP) "bed tax" funds to assist in the pro-
motion and implementation of tourism-
related events.

Mark Simonich, Director, Montana
Department of Commerce, approved the
SEGP funding for the five events following
recommendations from the Montana
Promotion Division, Travel Montana and
members of the Governor-appointed
Tourism Advisory Council. The five SEGP
recipients were selected from 25 applications
submitted for funding.

"These grants enable communities small,
medium and large to be proactive in putting
together events that have both tourism and
community appeal," said Simonich. "It is
another effort on our part to support their

grassroots efforts to enhance quality of life
while strengthening their local economy."

The five 2002 SEGP awards are:

- Big Timber—Sweet Grass Chamber of
Commerce—\$4,750 (Sweet Grass Fest 2002)
- Billings—Yellowstone Art Museum—\$5,000
(Will James' Birthday Celebration)
- Hamilton—The Daly Mansion Preservation
Trust—\$3,100 (The Countess' Trail Ride)
- Havre—Havre Chamber of Commerce—
\$2,500 (3-on-3 Nothing But Net Street-Ball
Tournament)
- Livingston—Showcase Writers Guild—
\$11,575 (Take Two - 2002 Film Weekend)

Deadline for the next round of grant
applications will be mid-October 2002 for
the 2003 fiscal year. For more information,
contact Carol Crockett at 406-841-2870.

*Alternative accessible formats of this document
will be provided to disabled persons on request.*

Calendar of Events

August

- 17-22 "Ridin' the Range in Big Sky
Country" Media Tour—Custer Country
- 17-22 "Clark on the Yellowstone" Media
Tour—Yellowstone Country
- 21-26 Popular Photography Mentor Workshop
- 24-27 ESTO 2002—Portland, Oregon
- 29-9/3 "The S.A.A.M: Sheep, Arts, Antiques
and Museums" Media Tour—
Yellowstone Country

September

- 4-5 Affordable Meetings—Washington D.C.
- 16 NTA Pre-Caucus—Helena

*For all of the latest Montana tourism industry
information log on to Travel Montana's Intranet site:
travelmontana.state.mt.us.*



Travel Montana

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